

I look forward to attending the Capitol Hill premiere tonight and urge all to see *The Barber of Birmingham: Foot Soldier of the Civil Rights Movement*.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

#### ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES WE FACE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, as always, it's an honor to speak here in the House of Representatives.

I heard Democratic friends mention earlier that what we need to do to get the economy going is start spending on infrastructure because our grandchildren will really appreciate the dollars that they have to pay years from now that we spent on infrastructure.

The only thing is, that's exactly what our friends across the aisle were saying in January of 2009 when they wanted an \$800 billion stimulus package that turned out to be maybe \$900 billion or \$1 trillion. It was going to be for infrastructure. And many in the American public said, yeah, that's a good idea. It turned out that only around 6 percent or so, 6 to 7 percent may have been for infrastructure.

Okay. Fooled us once, shame on you. Fool us twice, shame on us.

The thing is, some of us weren't fooled even back then. We had already seen things that were said that would be done that were not done. So I voted against that so-called "porkulus" stimulus, or whatever you want to call it, bill. I voted against TARP because in America we're not supposed to just give one man \$700 billion and say, go do whatever you want with all this money; we don't care, just fix things. Because he certainly didn't fix things, although he did engorge his buddies at Goldman Sachs.

Nonetheless, we do face economic difficulties. And within the last 2 weeks there were six of us, a bipartisan group, in Turkey. Their economy seems to be going very well, and we were seeing things growing and doing well in Istanbul. And they don't understand sarcasm very well and so, but I, nonetheless, said to some of their economic leaders, business leaders, so you must have had many huge stimulus packages to get the economy going. They looked at me like I was crazy because they don't understand sarcasm very well in another language I guess. But they spoke good English.

Nonetheless, they didn't use stimulus packages. But they did say they had dropped their corporate tax rate that was much too high down to 20 percent, and now businesses have been coming in. That works. It works whenever it's been tried.

But let me get to another point. Credibility is always relevant. In my

days as a judge and chief justice that was one of the rules of the court. Credibility is always an issue. It's always relevant. So when this country makes promises to people and doesn't keep them, or they're stupid promises to people we know will not keep their word to us, we lose credibility.

We found out now that this administration is negotiating with the Taliban; basically, you know, just let us out. We're negotiating with the Taliban? Did Hoover negotiate with Dillinger, and Bonnie and Clyde?

Did Robert Kennedy, as Attorney General, negotiate with the Mob?

When people are involved and they're criminals and they're murderers and they're engaged in criminal activity and they've never kept a promise, do you really want to be making that deal?

Now, I know it seems like we should have learned a lesson from the Clinton administration. When North Korea was trying to build nukes, the Clinton administration sends Madeleine Albright, and she comes in, hey, hey, how about dropping pursuing nuclear weapons? We'll build you a nuclear power plant if you'll just—you'll build us a nuclear power plant if we just tell you we won't pursue it? Sure, we'll tell you that all day long.

□ 1230

So they cut a deal. We built them a nuclear plant, and that has been used to develop nuclear weapons, just like anybody should have figured it would. When you deal with criminals, with lying thugs, you can't trust that agreement.

For us to be negotiating with the Taliban is a blight on those who have given their lives there. I attended a funeral this weekend of Brad Gaudet, who went down in a helicopter accident on June 5. We owe those people who have given their lives fighting against those who want to destroy our way of life better than cutting a deal.

Let's rearm the Northern Alliance, the people that originally defeated the Taliban—just give them the advisers, the trainers, all that they need, and let them whip the Taliban for us again. Let's not negotiate with Dillinger. It makes no sense and we lose credibility.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Loving and gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We ask today that You bless the Members of this assembly to be the best and most faithful servants of the people they serve. Purify their intentions, that they will say what they believe and act consistent with their words.

Help them, indeed help us all, to be honest with themselves, so that they will not only be concerned with how their words and deeds are weighed by others, but also with how their words and deeds affect the lives of those in need and those who look to them for support, help, strength, and leadership.

May all that is done this day in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FLEISCHMANN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### NLRB KILLING JOBS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, Congressman DARELL ISSA conducted a field hearing in North Charleston, South Carolina. A witness who really brought home the consequences families will face as a result of the NLRB's job-killing complaint was Cynthia Ramaker, who is currently employed at Boeing.

Bringing a human face to the complaint, she explained how the NLRB is denying her right to work. She explained that Boeing's new 1.1 million square foot building is already completed. Manufacturing is to begin this summer, with over 1,000 jobs already, and up to 3,800 more jobs could come. With construction and suppliers, ultimately 9,000 jobs could be created.

Boeing was attracted to South Carolina because of the trained world-class workforce, a welcoming pro-business climate, right to work laws, and a pro-business government of Republicans and Democrats. The job-killing action